

Application No. 10/730,618
Submission Dated May 30, 2006
In Response to Office Action Dated March 27, 2006
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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 3-13 are pending in the present patent application. Claims 2, 14, and 15 have been cancelled in a previous Office Action response. Claims 1, 3-5 and 10-13 have been rejected. Claims 1, 3-5, and 10 have been cancelled without prejudice. The Applicants gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner has allowed claims 7-9. The Applicants also gratefully acknowledge that the Examiner has noted that claims 6 and 11-13 are objected to as depending from a rejected claim, but would be allowable if re-written in independent form.

Paragraph [0022] has been amended in order to correct an inadvertent error where the numeral identifying the piston was inconsistent between the drawings and the specification. The identifier for the piston was amended to read the numeral "33" in order to be consistent with FIG. 4. No new matter was entered in making this amendment. Accordingly, the Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the current objection to the specification.

In accordance with the Examiner's indication that claim 6 is objected to as depending from a rejected claim but would be allowable if re-written in independent form, claim 6 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 1 therein. This amendment adds no new matter to the claim. Applicants submit that claim 6 is now in allowable form and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 6.

In accordance with the Examiner's indication that claim 11 is objected to as depending from a rejected claim but would be allowable if re-written in independent form, claim 11 was amended to incorporate the subject matter of claim 10 therein. In addition, upon incorporating the subject matter of claim 10 into claim 11, the Examiner's 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection has been addressed by changing the term "permits" in the 'wherein' clause to --is adapted to permit-- and also changing the term "prevents" (in the same clause) to --is adapted to prevent--. The claim was amended so that it is clear that the reservoir is not part of the claimed combination. This amendment adds no new matter to the claim. Applicants submit that claim 11 is now in allowable form and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to claim 11. Claims 12 and 13 depend from claim 11 and are, therefore, also in allowable form. Applicants request that the Examiner withdraw the current objections to claims 11-13.

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Applicants believe that the foregoing amendments and remarks are fully responsive to the Office Action and that the claims herein are allowable. An early action to that effect is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference with Applicants' attorneys would be advantageous to the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Applicants believe that no fees are due with the submission of this Amendment. If any charges are incurred with respect to this Amendment, they may be charged to Deposit Account No. 503342 maintained by Applicants' attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Richard R. Michaud
Registration No. 40,088
Attorney for Applicants

Michaud-Duffy Group LLP
306 Industrial Park Road, Suite 206
Middletown, CT 06457-1532
Tel: (860) 632-7200
Fax: (860) 632-8269